

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 104035 TOSEC 110372

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA

S E C R E T STATE 104035 TOSEC 110372

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RP, VN

SUBJECT: YOUR MEETING WITH PHILIPPINE PRESIDENT MARCOS IN
NAIROBI

REFS: (A) MANILA 5843, (B) MANILA 5848

1. SUGGEST FOLLOWING ADDITIONS AND CHANGES IN BRIEFING
PAPER FOR YOUR BILATERAL WITH MARCOS.

2. ADDITIONAL ISSUE: PHILIPPINE RELATIONS WITH VIET-NAM.
BACKGROUND: AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN HAS REPORTED (REF A) THAT
DURING HIS CALL ON MARCOS APRIL 28, MARCOS INDICATED HIS
CONCERN OVER ABSENCE OF COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN MANILA AND
HANOI AND STATED HIS INTENTION TO TRY TO OPEN DISCUSSIONS
WITH HANOI FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH U.S. AND ASEAN STATES
AND AFTER COMPLETION AND SIGNING OF U.S.-PHILIPPINE MILITARY
BASE AGREEMENT.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 104035 TOSEC 110372

3. TALKING POINTS:

(A) ESTABLISHMENT OF PHILIPPINE-VIET-NAM COMMUNICATIONS IS OF COURSE MATTER FOR MARCOS TO DECIDE.

(B) WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE PRUDENT NOT TO RUSH INTO A

RELATIONSHIP AND WE AGREE WITH MARCOS JUDGEMENT THAT IT WOULD BE BEST TO WAIT UNTIL AFTER U.S.-PHILIPPINE BASE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED. IF ATTEMPTED EARLIER, VIETNAMESE LIKELY TO SEIZE UPON BASE ISSUE AS NEGATIVE FACTOR.

(C) U.S. POLICY, AS RECENTLY EXPRESSED BY PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY, IS TO LOOK TO FUTURE. WE HAVE OFFERED TO TALK TO THE VIETNAMESE ABOUT OUTSTANDING ISSUES, BUT THEIR ATTITUDE IS NOT ENCOURAGING. IN ANY CASE, THERE CAN BE NO REAL PROGRESS IN NORMALIZING OUR RELATIONS WITHOUT AN ACCOUNTING FOR U.S. MISSING IN ACTION.

4. WITH REGARD TO ISSUE 3 (ECONOMIC NEGOTIATIONS), YOU WILL NOTE FROM REF B THAT SULLIVAN EXPLORED SUBJECT IN SOME DEPTH AND THAT MARCOS INDICATED HE WOULD GIVE HIS NEGOTIATORS MORE FLEXIBILITY AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT ECONOMIC AGREEMENT CAN BE CONCLUDED IN SAME TIME FRAME AS MILITARY BASE AGREEMENT, I.E., SOME TIME THIS SUMMER.

5. ADDITIONAL COURTESY TALKING POINT: YOU MAY WISH TO THANK MARCOS FOR HIS COURTESY AND COOPERATION IN AGREEING TO EARLIER OPENING OF MAY 6 UNCTAD MEETING IN ORDER TO MEET YOUR TRAVEL SCHEDULE. SISCO

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